

24.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein a first portion of the tube is made from a first metal and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube is made from a second metal different from the first metal.

25.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein a first portion of the tube is characterized by a first porosity and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube, is characterized by a second porosity different from the first porosity.

26.(New) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of disposing a treatment agent on the stent.

27.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the stent includes a plurality of serpentine segments extending about the circumference of the stent.

28.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of serpentine segments which extend about the circumference of the stent.

29.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of openings which are elongate.

30.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of openings whose widths exceed their lengths.

31.(New) A stent formed in accordance with the method of claim 23.

32.(New) A method of manufacturing a stent comprising the steps of:

providing a tube having at least two different axially spaced regions of different physical characteristics;

cutting a plurality of openings in the tube to form a stent.

33.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein a first portion of the tube is made from a first metal and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube is made from a second metal different from the first metal.

34.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein a first portion of the tube is characterized by a first porosity and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube, is characterized by a second porosity different from the first porosity.